

REMARKS

Applicants have carefully considered the positions of the Examiner, and respectfully request reconsideration of the submitted claims. Applicants have amended Claims 1 and 22 and added new Claims 25 and 26. Claims 1-8 and 13-26 are presented for further examination.

The Examiner rejected Claims 1, 13-20, 22, and 24 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by North et al. US. Patent No. 6,505,245 ("North"). The Examiner then rejected Claims 2-8, 21, and 23 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over North as applied to Claim 1 and further in view of Srinivasan et al. US. Patent Application Pub. No. 2004/014835 ("Srinivasan").

As is more clearly set forth in the amended claims, the present invention is very different from North. First, North fails to teach each one of a plurality of computer interface units comprising a signaling circuit in communication with and co-located with a corresponding remote computer. Nor does North state that a signal emitted at the computer interface module will distinctly identify the specific remote computer coupled to the computer interface module.

Therefore, Applicants submit that the Examiner's rejection of Claims 1, 13-20, 22, and 24 in view of North should be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Next, the Examiner rejected Claims 2-8, 21, and 23 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over North as applied to Claim 1 and further in view Srinivasan. In the opinion of the Examiner, "it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to take the teachings of Srinivasan related to generating an audible or visual signal in response to a detection of an event in a plurality of monitored computing devices and have modified the teachings of North related to

remotely monitoring and controlling [a] plurality of network elements in a communication network in 'order to provide automatic notification as to any network server problems and to provide corrective actions to be taken'." Applicants respectfully disagree on the basis discussed above and further that Srinivasan does not supply those elements missing in North.

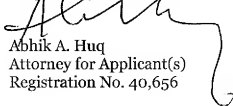
In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application as claimed in Claims 1-8 and 13-26 represents a patentable contribution to the art and the application is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action is accordingly solicited.

Correspondence and Fees

No fees are believed to be necessitated by the instant response. However, should this be in error, authorization is hereby given to charge Deposit Account no. 03-3839 for any underpayment, or to credit any overpayments.

Please address all correspondence to the correspondent address for **Customer No. 26345 of Intellectual Docket Administrator, Gibbons P.C.**, One Gateway Center, Newark, NJ 07102. Telephone calls should be made to Abhik A. Huq at (215) 446-6268 and fax communications should be sent directly to him at 215-446-6309.

Respectfully submitted,


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